

ABSTRACT

A knife-like die for cutting a thermoformed plastic article from a sheet of thermoformable plastic. The die includes a die build up plate that is mounted to a first platen and a striker plate that is mounted to a second platen. The die further includes a die board having a knife element mounted thereto. A heating element heats the knife to a temperature that allows for easy cutting of the thermoformable plastic. The die board also includes a die travel stop which prevents the die from being forced into the striker plate thus damaging the knife element and a die location pilot that engages a feature on the sheet of thermoformable plastic to align the article with the die.